

In the Specification

Applicant presents replacement paragraphs below indicating the changes with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6 line 19 with the amended paragraph/line as follows:

Infrequent words may be routed to a designated computer system ~~273~~ in the index serving row 250 as shown in Figure 2 or may be routed to document partitioning ~~272~~ of Figure 2 if the infrequent word index is stored in ~~partitions~~ partitions distributed across the same computer systems as the frequent word index as shown in Figure 5.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8 line 1 with the amended paragraph/line as follows:

Figures 5 and 6 illustrate two alternative ways of storing the infrequent word index in a distributed manner across a row of computer systems. Figure 5 shows computer systems I, II, and III that each store a subset of the indexed document numbers 1 to N, N+1 to N+M, and N+M+1 to N+2M respectively. The region of the frequent word index 159 that is adjacent to the infrequent word index 157 is shown. In Figure 5, both the frequent word and infrequent word indexes are indexed and partitioned on document. Referring also to Figure 4, when the query index provides the query to the fan out and aggregation module 151, the words in the query are checked to determine if any infrequent words are present. If there are no infrequent words, then the query is processed as before. If there are infrequent words then the infrequent word index data ~~159~~ 157 can be retrieved and then combined with the frequent word index data ~~157~~ 159. If the infrequent word data is partitioned by document the data is read and processed on each index serving computer system. Caching will be slightly improved since the infrequent word data will probably get aged out more quickly and the frequent word index will likely be a denser cache.